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1990/04/13

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ARA/NEA REARCS

*PRC
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PAGE 01 DAMASC 02341 131609Z 002110 606276
ACTION: SY 03)
INFO: RA 01) MRA 01) NEA 02) EG 02) JO 03) IS 02)
ACTION NEA-00 14/1062Z A3 HS (TOTAL COPIES: 014)

INFO LOG-00 ADS-00 INR-05 EUR-00 SS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
H-01 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 PM-00 EAP-00 INRE-00 ACDA-13
SP-00 C-01 SCT-03 P-02 SB-00 /032 W
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R 131211Z APR 90
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4968
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIJING
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 02341

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: PREL, CH, SY
SUBJECT: CHINESE AMBASSADOR: MISSILE SALES - A WEAK
DENIAL, BUT A DENIAL

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. CHINA'S NEW AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA, ZHANG ZHEN, PAID A COURTESY CALL ON AMBASSADOR APRIL 12. AMBASSADOR REVIEWED THE STATUS OF U.S.-SYRIAN RELATIONS IN SOME DETAIL, EXPLAINING OUR ATTEMPTS TO ENTER INTO A CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE ON A NUMBER OF KEY ISSUES SUCH AS THE PEACE PROCESS, LEBANON AND TERRORISM.

3. AMBASSADOR ALSO REFERRED TO SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE WORLD, SUCH AS THE DEVELOPMENTS IN U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS WHICH ARE ENABLING THE SUPERPOWERS TO ELIMINATE WHOLE CATEGORIES OF MISSILES AND WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. HE NOTED THAT THERE APPEARS TO BE PROGRESS IN SEVERAL OTHER AREAS OF THE WORLD TO REDUCE THE POTENTIAL FOR CONFLICT - EXCEPT IN THE MIDDLE EAST. HE NOTED THAT OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS HAVE DISCUSSED THE ISSUE OF MISSILE PROLIFERATION AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS.

DJEREJIAN

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